

AUTHORITY WITHOUT ACCOUNTABILITY

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today with both anger and urgency.

What we are witnessing in this country is not law enforcement. It is violence followed by lies. It is authority without accountability.

Since Trump returned to power, at least 36 people have died in ICE custody, and 2 have been shot and killed by ICE agents. These are not just numbers. They are lives, people with families. We must say their names, tell their stories, and stop state-sanctioned violence.

Last week in Minneapolis, a 37-year-old American mother, Renee Good, was killed by an ICE agent. It was caught on video for the world to see. Almost immediately, the lies began.

DHS Secretary Kristi Noem said that Renee Good posed an imminent threat, even floating the words "domestic terrorism." Yet, the facts don't back this up. Eyewitnesses don't back this up. The video doesn't back up the lies repeated by DHS immediately after the killing.

State law enforcement in Minnesota have been blocked from the vehicle where Renee was killed because the FBI sealed it off, blocking transparency and accountability.

Renee Good's murder is not an isolated incident. In my community, we know this pattern all too well. In September, Silverio Villegas Gonzalez, a father of two, was killed by ICE on the side of a road in my district after dropping off his kids at school. Right on cue, we got the same script: immediate vague allegations by DHS, lies instead of facts, no transparency, no accountability, and no respect for the family left behind.

There was also Marimar Martinez, another constituent. An ICE agent shot her five times and then arrested her. ICE leveled serious criminal accusations to justify it. Later, quietly, those charges were dropped. Why? It was because they were lies, but the damage was done. Her name was dragged through the mud. Her family was terrorized. Her community is still shaken.

This was how a teacher in our community was victimized, and it didn't stop there.

Juan Espinoza Martinez, also from my district, was accused of serious conspiracy to commit crimes that never happened. ICE made them up and publicly smeared his name. Those charges were dropped as well because they were false. There was no apology, no discipline, and no consequences.

ICE acts first and then lies. The lie sets the frame. The truth is forced to play defense.

In 2025, Republicans gave ICE \$75 billion, a nearly 300 percent increase in its annual budget, at the same time that they stripped millions of Ameri-

cans of their healthcare. Republicans now want to give ICE and Border Patrol even more money.

We are asked to fund an agency that does the following: sends masked agents into communities like my neighborhood to use loaded guns and tear gas against our neighbors. It arrests people without warrants. It engages in obscene racial profiling and discrimination that communities see clearly, even when Washington looks away. It stops Members of Congress from inspecting detention centers, which is their duty as a coequal branch of government.

These facts should outrage every Member of this House. If you believe in the rule of law, you should be furious. If you believe in congressional oversight, you should be furious. If you believe that Federal agencies should not lie to justify violence, you should be furious because when an agency lies to the public, lies to the courts, and lies to Congress, they are spitting in our faces.

This is not about being for or against immigration enforcement. This is about whether we tolerate violence followed by coverups. This is about whether or not we accept fabricated charges as a means of intimidation.

HONORING JHONIER DANIEL MARIN

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a McAllen native, Firefighter Sergeant Jhonier Daniel Marin.

Sergeant Marin's life is defined by answering the call to service. At age 18, he joined the U.S. Army Reserve. By age 19, he was a certified Texas firefighter. From overseas operations to the front lines of our own southern border in Eagle Pass, Texas, Sergeant Marin has selflessly protected our great country.

His leadership is exceptional. Out of 25,000 troops, Sergeant Marin was 1 of only 13 selected to be honored by President Trump in the Oval Office this past December, where he received the new Mexican Border Defense Medal.

Today, he continues to protect his community as a firefighter for the city of Mission.

I congratulate Sergeant Marin on this recognition and thank him for his unwavering service to south Texas and our Nation.

HONORING ESTELA RODRIGUEZ

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Estela Rodriguez of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office on her retirement after 32 years of service. For over three decades, Sergeant Rodriguez has not only been a dedicated member of law enforcement but also a mentor and a leader.

Through her work to create the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Women's Empowerment Conference, she opened doors for the next generation of female

officers, instilling confidence in the women who will follow in her footsteps. Her legacy is not just the badge worn but the countless officers who stand taller today because of her.

Sergeant Rodriguez leaves behind a department and a community that are better because of her work. We thank her for 32 years of selfless service, and we wish her a long and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE UTRGV VAQUEROS FOOTBALL TEAM

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the UTRGV Vaqueros for finishing their inaugural season with nine wins, including all seven home games, making the Vaqueros the winningest first-year program in football championship series history.

The team proved that the Rio Grande Valley is a football powerhouse. Every home game, fans across the valley showed up to cheer on their team, selling out all seven home games and ranking top 15 for attendance among FCS teams across the Nation.

I congratulate the players, coaches, and the fans on a great season that put UTRGV football on the map and gave the valley a legacy that will not be forgotten. We are already looking forward to the next season.

V's up.

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ICE SHOOTING OF RENEE NICOLE GOOD

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in grief and in outrage over the killing of an American citizen at the hands of the United States Government.

Her name was Renee Nicole Good. She was the mother of three, a devout Christian, a poet, a partner, a compassionate neighbor. She was a woman whose love for her community was only rivaled by the love that she had for her children. Those children will never hear their mother's voice again, feel her embrace, or have her by their side as they are growing into adulthood.

That is the human cost of what happened in Minnesota last week. Renee Good's life was taken by a Federal agency emboldened by this administration. Donald Trump and Kristi Noem have created an Immigration and Customs Enforcement with no oversight, no chain of command, no standards, and no restraint. They have created a lawless culture with no accountability, and a mother being shot at point-blank range is the consequence. That is not law enforcement. It is state violence.

The Department of Homeland Security was created to protect the American people and defend our Nation against terror. Under Secretary Noem, it has become a source of terror for the American people themselves. From

pepper-spraying children to deploying armed masked agents in the neighborhood raids with zero oversight, ICE has become a rogue agency operating above the law.

This did not happen by accident. This administration made a deliberate choice. Now, because of it, a U.S. citizen is dead, and she is not the only one. Rather than investing in our communities, they are turning them into war zones. This is about failed leadership at the very top.

Kristi Noem took an oath to defend and support the Constitution of the United States, an oath she has violated time and time again. She has obstructed Congress, defied Federal court orders, violated due process by detaining and deporting American citizens, and directed unconstitutional ICE operations using militarized agents in American cities, conduct that culminated in the killing of Renee Nicole Good.

Renee should be alive today. Her children should still have their mother. Her wife should still have her spouse. The American people deserve to know exactly what happened, why it happened, and how we ensure it never happens again.

This administration, whose own policies and actions help create these conditions, cannot be trusted to investigate itself impartially. That is why there must be a full, independent, and transparent process that results in justice for Renee and accountability for those in power who allowed this to happen. Anyone who presides over the killing of American citizens and turns a department meant to protect us into a force of terror does not deserve to remain in office.

Secretary Kristi Noem must resign immediately, or she must be impeached. Justice is not optional. Accountability is not negotiable, and silence is complicity.

PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW RECAP

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the Pennsylvania Farm Show which kicked off this past weekend.

For 110 years, farmers have met each January at the Farm Show in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The event is the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the country, featuring nearly 5,000 animals, more than 250 commercial exhibits, and welcomes more than 500,000 visitors each year.

The Farm Show is a great event for all ages and features many educational booths, helping children learn about the ag industry. One of the most popular attractions at the Pennsylvania Farm Show is the food court. Here, visitors can enjoy various food that features commodities grown in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This year's Farm Show theme, "Growing a Nation," is particularly fitting as we celebrate 250 years since our Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence.

For generations, American farmers have not only fed this country, they have helped to feed the world, and they have done so by continuously adapting and embracing new tools, technologies, and practices.

The success of U.S. agriculture has been built through the ingenuity, hard work, and the strategic application of science and technology.

I was proud to help open the 110th Farm Show on Saturday. It is always an honor to meet farmers from across the Commonwealth and learn about how they continue to ensure agriculture remains Pennsylvania's number one industry. It was particularly encouraging to see many young and aspiring farmers, making it clear that the next generation is ready to take charge and lead the industry.

I hosted my annual listening session, where I was able to take questions directly from producers and consumers. The crowd also included county commissioners, Farm Bureau leaders, State senators, representatives from Penn State, Delaware Valley, as well as lots of 4-H'ers, dairy princesses, and FFA members.

As the House Committee on Agriculture prepares to craft the farm bill 2.0, it is crucial to hear directly from the men and women who feed their communities and this Nation.

I was glad to be joined by my fellow Pennsylvania Congressmen, RON BRESNAHAN and DAN MEUSER. I was also proud to have Russell Redding, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture, and Dr. Troy Ott, dean of Penn State's College of Agricultural Science, on the panel.

This year, we celebrated passage of my bill, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which will be soon signed into law and brings back the option of whole milk and 2 percent milk, including flavored, to our schools' meal programs. Dairy farmers from across the Commonwealth championed the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, and I thank them for their support for this commonsense bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Pennsylvania Farm Show has grown exponentially since it began over 100 years ago, a direct reflection of how our country's ag industry has grown. It was an honor to attend the Farm Show this year, and I thank all of those who worked tirelessly to make this incredible event possible.

CELEBRATING JAY SEARS

(Mr. LATIMER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 20th anniversary of MyRye.com under the editorship of Jay Sears, for its service as an online

chronicler of the life and the times of the Rye community.

In addition to an active business career and family obligations, Jay Sears somehow finds the time and energy to attend and report on community comings and goings of the people and the organizations in Rye. The high school sports scene, boys' and girls' sports, are well documented with photos and stories of the athletes, as well as scores of games.

MyRye has regular features, such as Rye GPT People of Note—the celebrities who live here or have a connection to Rye; a platform to feature the nonprofits of Rye, the Rye YMCA, The Rye Arts Center, the Rye Nature Center, the Historical Society, and the Rye Free Reading Room, amongst so many others. He also highlights the inevitably sad news when a longtime Rye neighbor passes away for a final salute.

Mr. Speaker, from the floor of the House of Representatives, I thank Jay Sears and MyRye.com.

ARDSLEY ENVIRONMENTALISTS

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, permit me a shout-out to the many volunteer environmental activists in the village of Ardsley who work tirelessly to advance good environmental policy.

Two groups meet monthly to plan and implement efforts to make Ardsley greener and cleaner in air, water, and land resources: The Ardsley Green Task Force and the Ardsley Pollinator Pathway Committee.

In attending Zoom meetings, I have seen the energy and dedication of these volunteers. With the strong voice of Dr. Carol Sommerfield, they are making a difference in their community of 4,500 residents.

Mr. Speaker, from the floor of the House of Representatives, I thank them for backing up their commitment to the environment with hard work.

SALUTING TOBA LACROWN

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I want to salute the work of Dr. Olo-run-toba Ah-du-yem'-ee LaCrown, who is president of the African American Association of Co-Op City, and the members of that organization as they prepare to celebrate The Dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this coming Monday, January 19, at the Church of New Vision, Einstein Loop North of Co-op City in the Bronx.

We all know him as "Toba," and he and his organization have sponsored important cultural events that unite the African-American population in shared moments of pride.

Aside from honoring the legacy of Dr. King this weekend, the organization held a recent December celebration of Kwanzaa that drew a crowd to the Bartow meeting hall.

Toba's leadership has been on display in many forms: as a United States Air Force veteran who served in Afghanistan and, later, headed The American Legion Post in Co-op City; as a former NYPD police officer and, later, as leader of the 47th Precinct Community Council; active in Bronx Community